



DENAMONA

P R E S C H O O L

**31 CRAIGAVON ROAD,
FINTONA.
Tel 07518668111**

PARENT INFORMATION BOOK 1



DENAMONA PRESCHOOL

Registered Childcare Provider

As a sessional childcare provider we are registered with our local Social Services Trust Early Years Team.

The main responsibility of the Early Years Service within the Western Trust is the registration, support and inspection of day care provision for children aged under 12. This includes us as we provide childcare within our Playgroup, Afterschool club and our Summer Club.

The service is committed to raising the quality, range and accessibility of day care provision for children and their families. This is pursued through working in partnership with families, providers and relevant agencies to ensure children benefit from safe, stimulating, caring experiences. Childcare services are inspected at least once per year to ensure that standards are adhered to.

The Early Years Team will support us in providing a quality of care for your children. As part of this they will provide us with training and advice and help us liaise with other agencies. We will undergo an annual inspection where the Trust will ensure that we are meeting the Minimum Standards as outlined by the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety. As part of this parents contact details may be made available to HSCT Trust Early Years Teams to seek the views of parents as part of the inspection process.

The purpose of registration is:-

- To protect children
- To provide reassurance to persons using independent services who are arranging for their children to be cared for by someone who is not a relative and may be a stranger
- To ensure that services meet an acceptable standard
- To ensure that people wishing to provide services for children do so within an agreed framework.

Under the Children (NI) Order 1995 you are required to register with your local Trust if you wish to provide a service as a childminder, set up a day nursery, playgroup, out of school club, crèche or a holiday club.

If you have any concerns or complaints about our service then you can contact the Omagh Early Years Team

Community Services Dept
Tyrone & Fermanagh Hospital
1 Donaghane Road
Omagh
BT79 0NS
Tel: 028 82835108

Book 1 – Contents

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Denamona Preschool Uniform

Denamona Preschool Uniform is made up of:

- Navy Sweatshirt with logo
- Blue Polo shirt with logo
- Navy leggings/trousers
- Trainers (slip on or Velcro fastening)

Also required:

- Wellies
- Waterproof coat and suit
- Bag with spare clothes to be left in preschool

Preschool Sweatshirt and polo shirt with logo is available from Select Kidz, Omagh.





Denamona Pre-School Daily Routine

During our Pre-school morning children will be welcomed on arrival and have the opportunity to participate in:

Free Play,
Physical Activity, (indoor/outdoor),
Group activities,
Buffet style Break,
Circle time, songs and stories.

Our Daily routine reflects the needs of the children and can happen in any order.

Snack Time

A variety of Healthy Snacks are provided along with a range of fruit, milk and water daily. Snack is offered in a Buffet Style.

Children will be encouraged to follow the snack routine:

1. Wash their hands for snack
2. Take down their symbol off snack board
3. Get a plate and cup
4. Choose their snack.

Throughout the year children's independence will be encouraged. They will be encouraged to pour their own water/milk and butter their own bread.

Popular snack items include: Bread/toast, Pancakes, Muffins, Crackers, Breadsticks, Yoghurts, Cheese, Ham, Variety of fruit

We encourage Healthy Eating and follow a Healthy eating policy in line with 'Nutrition Matters for the Early Years'. We cater for any special dietary requirements or allergies with advice from parents and dieticians if needed.

Once finished snack, children are encouraged to clear their place and put their cups, plates, spoons, knives in basins provided.

We are inspected regularly by Environmental Health and follow any recommendations made. We currently hold Food Hygiene Rating 5!



Curriculum and Learning

Pre School Curriculum

Young children require:

- a safe and stimulating supervised environment where they can feel happy and secure;
- opportunities to investigate, satisfy their curiosity, explore the environment inside and outside the playroom
- interaction with sensitive and understanding adults who promote their well-being and extend their learning and development
- adults who treat them as individuals, support them and sensitively participate in their play.

(CCEA Curricular Guidance for Pre-School Education)

Children will be provided with opportunities, through play and other experiences, to develop the learning associated with the Northern Ireland Curriculum:

- The Arts
- Language Development
- Early Mathematical Experiences
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Physical Development and Movement
- The World Around Us

Whilst our curriculum is set out under these specific headings, children will experience them all through play and other relevant experiences for their age. The following page gives further information about how and what children will learn under the above headings.

What will children be learning at Playgroup?

There are many examples of learning through the six areas of the pre-school curriculum that we will be aiming to promote through your child's year with us. Some examples are as follows. Children will be learning to:

The Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Express their own ideas through pictures & models ✓ Enjoy using a wide variety of media, e.g. pencils, paint, scrap materials, sponges, clay, dough etc. ✓ Play imaginatively on their own or in a group ✓ Enjoy making music by singing, clapping and playing percussion instruments ✓ Enjoy listening to music
Language Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Understand and follow simple instructions ✓ Enjoy listening to stories ✓ Take part in conversations with adults and peers ✓ Enjoy browsing in the book corner ✓ Know that the printed word has meaning ✓ Re-tell a story from pictures ✓ Recognise their own first name
Early Mathematical Experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Talk about daily routines/events in sequence ✓ Use and understand language associated with size and quantity ✓ Talk about everyday shapes ✓ Sort and group by size/pattern/shape/colour ✓ Copy, continue and create a repeating pattern ✓ Count objects accurately in the course of play
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Become independent in personal hygiene and daily routines ✓ Cope with rules and routines ✓ Enjoy the company of other children ✓ Play co-operatively and share resources ✓ Express his/her own feelings and emotions ✓ Persevere with a task
Physical Development and Movement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Enjoy physical play ✓ Develop an awareness of space ✓ Move confidently with increasing control and co-ordination ✓ Develop gross motor skills, e.g. jumping, kicking ✓ Develop fine motor skills and use small tools effectively

The World Around Us	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Use their senses to investigate and describe everyday objects and events ✓ Show care for living things and their environment ✓ Handle natural materials with curiosity, such as shells, leaves and stones ✓ Talk about the weather and the seasons at appropriate times of the year
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Play Areas and Activities

The following is a list of play activities that your child may experience each day offering them exciting and stimulating learning experiences.

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|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sand ▪ Paint ▪ Playdough/Clay ▪ Jigsaws ▪ Rhymes and Music ▪ Interest table ▪ Table top construction ▪ Small world play ▪ Outdoor play ▪ Trips | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Water ▪ Drawing and writing ▪ Floor construction ▪ Imaginative play ▪ Food and cookery ▪ Messy table ▪ Table top activities ▪ Books and stories ▪ Displays ▪ Special visitors |
|---|--|

Outdoor Play

Outdoor Play is an important part of the pre-school curriculum. Children will engage in outdoor play every day. The outdoor curriculum is just as important as the indoor. Our outdoor Play area is an extension of our playroom.

The outdoor area aims to offer activities on a larger scale that can't be carried out indoors. This area is also planned for.

Outdoor activities include:

- Sand/Water/Soil area
- Gardening area
- Construction
- Physical activity area
- Small world area
- Wild woods Area
- Role-play area
- Musical area
- Writing area
- Chalk & white board
- Mud Kitchen area
- Wheeled vehicle area

Observations and Assessment

All children are allocated to a 'Key worker' a member of staff who is responsible for observing them individually during their play experiences and notes are recorded under each area of their development areas. Observations may be recorded in a child's profile when staff have evidence that they:

- Have learned something new
- Have grown in confidence or shows particular interest
- Is experiencing a specific difficulty
- Demonstrates learning that confirms or contradicts the staff's expectations
- Show an understanding beyond expectations
- Demonstrates that there is a gap in understanding.

WHATSAPP

We use WhatsApp as a means of communication and we encourage parents to check this regularly as it will keep you up to date, telling you about what is happening within Preschool. This is one way of maintaining the important Partnership with Parents and home – playgroup link. It will inform you of themes/topics being covered and ways you can support your child’s learning at home. It will also have important information such as dates of school closures and forthcoming events or trips.

School Website

Please visit Denamona Preschool website for regular up to date information:

www.denamonaps.co.uk

Facebook

Please follow us on Facebook

Denamona Pre School

Find us on



Contact Us

Tel: 07518668111 or 02882 841673

E-mail: denamonapreschool@yahoo.co.uk

Pastoral Care Information for Parents

At Denamona Pre-School we believe that it is important to create an atmosphere in which the children feel secure, know they are valued as individuals and are encouraged in their learning, growth and development in a healthy and safe environment. All staff are committed to creating an atmosphere of care and trust where the children are confident and happy and are learning to be considerate to others, to share and co-operate.

Throughout the year parents are encouraged to discuss all aspects of their child's development with members of staff. Informal parent/staff meetings are held throughout the year, giving parents the opportunity to discuss their child's progress at regular intervals.

Pastoral care provision is developed and integrated in each of Denamona Pre-Schools policies. The well-being of each child is a vital ingredient of the whole ethos of the group, as children's progression is enhanced in an environment where they feel safe, happy and are enabled to grow and develop, confident that they, in the future, will play a positive role in society.

Media Initiative Respecting Difference Programme

The Media Initiative for Children (MIFC) was developed by Early Years - the organisation for you children (formerly known as NIPPA) in Northern Ireland and Pii the Peace Initiatives Institution in the USA. It combines cartoon media messages around diversity with an early years programme. Together they aim to promote positive attitudes to physical, social and cultural differences amongst young children, practitioners and parents. The messages also address bullying behaviours.

The cartoons are set in a play park and feature characters young children can easily identify with. The messages in the cartoons are reinforced in the early years setting through the use of resources and interactive activities that prompt children to talk about their feelings and attitudes to the issues explored in the cartoons.

All staff within the pre-school have been trained in the Respecting Difference programme and will be implementing this throughout the year with pre-school children.



Denamona Preschool Golden Rules

Our Golden Rules reflect our approach. We encourage and support the children to:

- Try to tell the truth
- Keep our Pre-School clean and tidy
 - Walk around Pre-School
- Respect other people's property by looking after things carefully
 - Look after our own belongings
- Play so everyone can enjoy themselves
- Treat everyone with respect and care

These are simplified within the class as:

- ✓ We use gentle voices
- ✓ We use helpful hands
- ✓ We take turns and share our toys
 - ✓ We use our feet for walking
- ✓ We use our ears for good listening